only, (ii) Stipulating a compulsory condition by ONGC for operators serving it for Helicopter Underwater Escape Training for the operating crew, (iii) advising passengers to wear safety jacket while on board, (iv) carrying out suitable modifications in Mi-172 helicopter for provision of switch on copilot side in parallel to pilot's switch for deployment of floation gear, (v) considering removal of rear 2 seats on right side close to emergency window and (vi) ensuring by operators that cabin baggage is propoerly stowed and not kept in aisles and in front of doors and exists.

(c) The Government has accepted the report.

Delay in expansion of Mangalore Airport

448. DR. VI JAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of CMLAVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether expansion of the existing airport at Mangalore by implementation of second runway project has faced hurdles in acquisition of land due to non-release of funds by State Government of Karnataka; and

(b) whether the State Government will be directed to release the requisite funds for acquisition of land in view of the huge potential for increase in international as well as domestic traffic and also several major industries located at coastal areas of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The State Government of Karnataka has already acquried 200 acres of land and handed over to Airports Authority of India (AAI) in May 2003 for development of Mangalore airport. An amount of Rs. 0.50 crore has been paid to the State Government for acquisition of land.

(b) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Airports in Karnataka

449. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of domestic airports which are identified for upgradation in Karnataka;

(b) whether any new places for establishing airports are being identified in Kamataka for development of tourism;

(c) if so, the details thereof with the budget allocation and status quo;

(d) the share of State Government in the above projects; and

(e) whether any time-frame has been fixed for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The airport at Mangalore, Hubli, Belgaum and Mysore belonging to Airports Authorityof India (AAI) have been identified for upgradation of infrastructure facilities in a phased manner.

(b) and (c) State Government has identified sites for construction of new airports at Gulberga, Bijapur and Bellary near Hampi. However, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has no plan at present to develop new airports at these places due to non-commitment from any schedueld airlines to operate their services and hence, no budget allocation has been made.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

New Airports

450. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of cities and towns have been identified for locating airports and where they exist, there is a proposal to upgrade the facilities therein;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a new international airport is proposed to be constructed at Bangalore; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFULPATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of cities and towns have been proposed by the concerned State Governments for construction of new airports at Pakyong, Gangtok (Sikkim), Chiethu, Kohima (Nagaland), Mopa', Panaji (Goa), Chakan, Pune & Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra), Ludhiana (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Devanahalli (Bangalore), Gulbarga, Bellary & Bijapur (Karnataka), Shamshabad, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Kannur (Kerala) and Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh). Twenty-five (25) existing airports—10 in the first phase and 15 in the next phase are also proposed to be developed and modernized keeping in view their commercial and traffic growth potential.